

**DATE:** January 26, 2021

**TO:** KDADS SCCC Adult Care Home Surveyors

**FROM:** Secretary Laura Howard

**SUBJECT:** KDADS SCC Surveyor PPE and Covid 19 Testing Policy

**EFFECTIVE:** February 1, 2021

**Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Survey Certification and Credentialing Commission (SCCC) Adult Care Home Surveyor Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Policy**

**Purpose:** To ensure that all Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) Adult Care Home Surveyors are trained and informed of the latest guidance from the Center for Disease Control on Person Protective Equipment the follow policy has been implemented and should be followed by all applicable staff.

KDADS surveyors are expected to don full PPE (gowns, face shields/goggles and surgical masks) prior to entry into a facility regardless of a facility's infectious disease status. Surveyors will maintain proper hand hygiene, social distancing and continuation of PPE usage when in the surveyor work area provided by the facility. Surveyors will don full PPE with the addition of an N-95 mask when entering a Covid positive area of a facility.

**Surveyor Testing**

KDADS survey staff are not required to participate in Covid 19 testing provided by a facility prior to entering an Adult Care Home. If a facility is denying a surveyor entry into their building, they should notify their Regional Manager and Director immediately. Survey staff should actively and honestly submit to all other aspects of visitor screening when entering a facility.

KDADS Survey staff who go onsite to healthcare facilities will be expected to test on a weekly basis. This test should be performed on each Monday or the day of the week that begins the work week for the staff member and should be completed in accordance with the KDADS BinaxNow Self-Test SOP. Prior to self-testing staff should complete the following training and secure supplies from their regional manager.

## *Training*

- Watch modules 1-6 on Abbott website:  
<https://www.globalpointofcare.abbott/en/support/product-installation-training/navica-brand/navica-binaxnow-ag-training.html>
- Watch KDHE training video (CLIA compliance and brief info on reporting):  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/64811234567>
- Watch KDHE training video (performing the test):  
<https://vimeo.com/478924669>

## *Supplies Needed*

- BinaxNOW test kit provided by KHEL (kit contains test card, reagent, swab, and patient info hand-out)
- Biohazard bags (for disposal of used test kit supplies)
- PPE: gloves, alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Timer (this can be on your phone)
- Navica app installed and ready on your phone (see Abbott video Module 6 for registering and using app) (optional if you do not have a state issued cell phone)
- Record keeping supplies (forms to be filled out when performing QCs/tests;)

## **Personal Protective Equipment**

Surveyors are expected to review and follow the below guidance and training to ensure proper hand hygiene, social distancing and PPE use are being followed.

### Hand Hygiene

Keeping your hands clean is the most effective way to prevent the spread of germs. Hand hygiene describes the process of cleaning your hands, either with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub, called ABHR.

- Appropriate hand washing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IisgnbMfKvI>
- Appropriate way to use ABHR: <https://vimeo.com/212706492>

### Social Distancing

Social distancing, also called “physical distancing,” means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household. It is important to stay at least 6 feet away from other people and wear a mask to slow the spread of COVID-19 whenever possible.

To practice social or physical distancing, stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms’ length) from other people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor spaces whenever possible.

Social distancing should be practiced in combination with other [everyday preventive actions](#) to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including [wearing masks](#), avoiding touching your face with unwashed hands, and frequently washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Transportation and social distancing-options to travel safely; try to keep at least 6 feet from other passengers or transit operators – for example, do not share a car with other surveyors when traveling to a facility, out to eat or to a hotel. When using rideshares or taxis, avoid pooled rides where multiple passengers are picked up, and sit in the back seat in larger vehicles so you can remain at least 6 feet away from the driver. When unable to maintain a social distance of 6 feet at minimum a cloth face covering should be used.

#### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Properly wearing appropriate PPE makes it less likely that an individual will get infected or spread infections to residents.

Each item of PPE has a proper time and place during an outbreak or pandemic, whether it’s the flu, COVID-19 or another infectious disease.

Surveyors will use the Battelle system for cleaning and reuse of the N95 mask. All other PPE will be discarded if working in a COVID positive facility. If a surveyor will be in the same facility that is non-Covid, 2 days in a row, they will decontaminate their face shield/goggles and mask for use the next day but should don a new gown.

Standard Precautions along with eye protection are always required when in an adult care home. Below you will find information and training on how to properly use the different pieces of PPE required.

- Face Mask:
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbAzUUtqbiU>
  - Reuse of N95 Masks: KDADS has chosen to use the Battelle system to reuse N95 if we are unable to purchase more.
    - To safely reuse your respirator or face mask, first perform hand hygiene. Then, remove your respirator or mask by the straps,

which are considered clean. Follow the CDC's guidance for decontaminating your respirator or mask. Before storing a face mask for reuse, fold it in half with the outer part of the mask folded in. Place your respirator or face mask in a paper bag and roll the top of the bag down to close it loosely. Then perform hand hygiene.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/decontamination-reuse-respirators.html>
- Eye Protection and Gown Use
  - To learn more about the “do’s and don’ts” for wearing gowns, gloves, masks, and N95 respirators:
    - <http://professionals.site.apic.org/infographic/ppe-dos-and-donts/>
- Appropriate Donning and Doffing of PPE
  - (Don) This video links to:
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4jQUBA1BrI>
  - (Doffing) This video links to:
    - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PQxOc13DxvQ&t=31s>
- CDC Infographic
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/A\\_FS\\_HCP\\_COVID19\\_PPE.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/A_FS_HCP_COVID19_PPE.pdf)